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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Izuru NAKAI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1725

Appln No.: 09/892,651

Examiner: Len Tran

Filed : June 28, 2001

Confirmation No.: 2034

For : LASER PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA. 22313

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98,  
Applicants hereby call the following information to the Examiner's attention:

A copy of a Chinese Office Action mailed in counterpart Chine Patent Application  
No. 01122658.7 on November 7, 2003 is enclosed, in which the following documents are  
cited:

U.S. Patent 5,670,069 to NAKAI et al., which issued on September 23, 1997; and

U.S. Patent 4,832,469 to NOGUCHI et al., which issued on May 23, 1989.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above documents. An  
English language copy of the Chinese Office Action, the above-noted patent documents, and  
a copy of a PTO-1449 Form listing the documents, are included for that purpose. The  
Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the appropriate space on the attached PTO-1449

form to confirm consideration of this document and to return a signed copy of the PTO-1449 form to the Applicants together with the next Official Action in the present application.

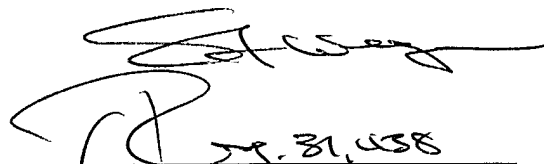
Since this Statement is being submitted after the mailing of the Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee, Applicants submit herewith the requisite fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Moreover, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Of course, this statement does not apply to information that has previously been cited by Applicants or the Examiner in the present application, as that information is already of record and no certification is necessary.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Izuru NAKAI et al.



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Bruce H. Bernstein  
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January 9, 2004  
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